



Parish of Fleet
All Saints

St Philip & St James

News Sheet for Sunday 9th December 2018
Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our worship today. It is a great joy to have you with us as we worship God together. If you are here for the first time we pray that your visit will be a time of blessing. Please make yourselves known to us after the service and, if you can, join us for coffee and a chat in the hall.

TODAY IN THE PARISH

All Saints (FPCC)

10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW) with
Junior Church and Crèche

Ss Philip and James

8.00am Holy Communion (1662)
10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW) with
Junior Church and Crèche
12.00pm Baptism Service
2.30pm Pantomime Rehearsal

TODAY'S COLLECT O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

The Coffee Bar is open Monday - Saturday 10.00am - 12.30pm

Monday 10th December

FPCC 9.00am Morning Prayer
Ss Philip and James 7.00pm Advent Reflection

Tuesday 11th December

FPCC 10.00am Praise and Play
Ss Philip and James 11.00am Prayer Group

Wednesday 12th December

Ss Philip and James 9.30am Eucharist followed by Coffee
All Saints School 2.30pm Prayer Meeting

Thursday 13th December

Ss Philip and James 9.00am Coffee and Play
Ss Philip and James 7.30pm Choir Practice
FPCC 8.00pm All Saints Ladies Group Christmas Party

Friday 14th December

FPCC 10.00am Dribbles and Giggles
FPCC 8.00pm Choir Practice

SUNDAY 16TH DECEMBER - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

All Saints (FPCC)

10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW)

Ss Philip and James

8.00am Holy Communion (1662)
10.00am Christingle Service
12.00pm Pantomime Rehearsal
6.30pm Festival of Music and
Readings for Christmas

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK . . .

Those in urgent need of our prayers including... Chris Butterfield, Colin Eagle, Ian Passfield, Erica Taylor and Jennette Wickes.

Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers... Beverley, Patricia Bull, Fiona Guy, Alwynne Hallam, Jon Harrow, Mollie Hayes, Dexter Heard, Bonnie Lewis, Gill Page, Peter Pimm, Louise Purton, Peter and Suzanne Rogers, Barbara Simson, John Stocks, Tyler Thompson and Molly Wilson.

Those who have died recently... John Pridmore.

Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time...

Peggy Boyd, David Fladgate, Henry Cotterell, Amy Cox, Doris Record, May Byatt, Sydney Coppard, Blanch Reynolds.

PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 10TH DECEMBER 2018

Meditation - 'The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.' *Proverbs 9.10*

We give thanks for... friends and family.

Please pray...

Mon - For the 'Open the Book' team - opening up the scriptures for the children of Fleet schools.

Tues - For refugees everywhere.

Wed - For our Government as they grapple with complex issues.

Thurs - (St. Lucy) For the churches and people of Scandinavia.

Fri - For those dealing with addiction and its consequences.

Sat - For our church gardeners, and all who care for parks and gardens in our community.

Sun - For our church choirs and their leaders.

ALL WEEK - For those who live in Alder Court, Aldershot Road, Alfred Close, Alton Road, Ancells Road, Andover Drive and Angora Way.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Please note that items with headlines underlined are new this week.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS - Monday 10th December, 7.00pm, Journeys into Prayer - come and learn different ways to pray.

CAROLS AND CAPERS - Mary Goodson has two tickets for Maddy Prior & the Carnival Band at The Haymarket on Friday 14th December at 7.30pm which she can no longer use. They are on offer for £50 for the All Saints Fund, first come, first served. Ring Mary on 815103 if you would like them.

THANK YOU - Our gift day for Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza raised just over £750. Thank you for all your support for this very worthy cause.

Also, a warm thank you to everyone who supported the Christian Aid Carol Concert, we raised £593.

PANTOMIME TICKETS - Pantomime tickets are now on sale to the public; either from Carolyn Ford at services at P & J, email to carolyn.ford@ntlworld.com or from the Parish Office. Performances take place on Friday 4 Jan at 7.30 pm, Saturday 5 Jan at 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm (Gala) and Sunday 6 Jan at 2.30 pm. Tickets for the Gala performance are £7.50 adults, £4.00 under 16s, and for all other performances £6.00 adults, £3.00 under 16s.

BUBBLE WRAP - We will need lots of bubble wrap for packing kitchen items in the FPCC, if you can offer some please contact Elizabeth Waller.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE - Our Christingle service this year will be at 10.00am in P&J church on Sunday 16 December, please note that there will be no junior church in FPCC on that day.

LEPROSY BOXES - We have recently banked £77 for The Leprosy Mission. Thanks to all our generous collectors.

CHRISTMAS SOIREE - Fleet Orchestra's Christmas Soirée in Ss P & J on Wednesday 12 December at 8.00pm. Some light classical pieces, plus a couple of Christmas items, followed by refreshments. No tickets, donation to orchestra funds appreciated.

SCHOOL PRAYER - Wednesday 12th December, 2.30pm, All Saints School, all welcome to join in this short time of prayer for, and with, the school community.

CAROL SINGING - Wednesday 19th December, 6.30pm, please join us to sing at Fleet Hospital. There will also be Community Carols on Saturday 22nd December at 1.00pm in Gurkha Square (followed by free mince pies!)

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading

Malachi 3.1-4

Thus says the Lord God: ¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in

the days of old and as in former years.

Comment *The Book of Malachi (Malachi means 'Messenger') was written after the Jews had returned from Babylon and were back in Jerusalem. Regrettably a corrupt priesthood and lax religious observances had come about which the prophet now foretells God would cleanse. New Testament writers saw this passage as referring to John the Baptist.*

Psalm (The Benedictus *Luke 1.68-79*)

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ☩
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

4 To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.

5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6 Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most
High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8 To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow
of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Comment *St Luke (1v67-79) recalls how Zephaniah quotes from Jewish hymns that draw and reflect passages from the Old Testament.*

Second Reading **Philippians 1.3-11**

My brothers and sisters, ³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in

the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because

you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Comment *Paul was writing from prison to a young church in Macedonia with whom he was at ease. The tenor of the letter is one of just keeping in touch and giving gentle encouragement. It contains no great theological teaching.*

Gospel Reading

Luke 3.1-6

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and

Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Comment *This passage is the principal one in the New Testament that enables us to tie John the Baptist and Our Lord into a secure historical setting. The dates can be corroborated by the contemporary Jewish historian Josephus.*

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Visitors and Newcomers: Welcome! We'd love to keep in touch with you so please fill in your contact details, tear off this section and give it to the vicar or one of the wardens/sidespersons on the door.

Name _____

Email/phone number _____

Please let us know why you'd like us to get in touch (e.g. add to mailing list/ prayer request/visit request/information about services)

We will not use your details for any other purpose without your consent and we do not sell or pass on information to third parties.

Hospital and home visits: If you know of anybody who is in hospital or housebound and would appreciate a visit, please use the above section giving your details and we will contact you for information. Please give to the duty warden at church or the Parish Office.

Pastoral Assistants: Should you have a pastoral need or any other kind of a problem and wish for a listening ear, there is a Pastoral Assistant available after the 10.00am service. Please ask the duty warden at the door for more information.

For any other need, suggestion or query, see contacts below:

PARISH CONTACTS

Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton ☎ 01252 219281

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Revd Carol Dunk ☎ 01252 444872

✉ carol@parishoffleet.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer, Sheila Buller ☎ 01252 629346

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Administrators, Chantelle Gardner & Elly Wilson

Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 1.00pm

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